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August 3, 2017

Via online form submission.

National Freedom of Information Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2822T)
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Freedom of Information Act request for EPA Records of Travel Expenditures for Administrator Pruitt and accompanying EPA Staff, from June 5 through June 12, 2017

Dear FOIA Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 551 et seq., I am writing on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) to request the following records held by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

Records Requested

Records of expenditures for all travel outside of Washington, DC by Administrator Pruitt, as well as any EPA staff that accompanied Administrator Pruitt, from June 5, 2017 through June 12, 2017. The request includes travel vouchers, or any other records of travel expenditures that are not included in travel vouchers, for the period in question.

Format of Records

EPA has provided records of Administrator Pruitt's travel vouchers from March 1 through May 31, 2017, in response to a separate May 18 FOIA request submitted by EIP. *See* Attachment A. EIP will accept disclosure of Administrator Pruitt's June 5 through June 12, 2017 travel costs in a similar format as the earlier travel vouchers provided by EPA, so long as the travel vouchers to be provided cover the expenditures for all travel by Administrator Pruitt and accompanying staff outside Washington, DC during the period in question, and EPA first verifies that EIP will consider such disclosure as responsive to EIP's current request.

Claims of Exemption from Disclosure

If you regard any documents as exempt from required disclosure under FOIA, please exercise your discretion to disclose them nevertheless, keeping in mind that FOIA "is the most prominent expression of a profound national commitment to ensuring an open Government" and

that “[a]ll agencies should adopt a presumption in favor of disclosure.” President Barack Obama, Memorandum For the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies: Freedom of Information Act, 74 Fed. Reg. 4, 863 (Jan. 26, 2009).

In the alternative, after careful review for the purpose of determining whether any of the information is exempt from disclosure, please provide all reasonably non-exempt portions of records and communications as required by FOIA.

Should you elect to invoke an exemption, please provide the required full or partial denial letter and sufficient information to determine whether or not there may be grounds to appeal EPA’s decision. In accordance with the minimum requirements and regulations of due process, this information should include:

- Basic factual material, including the originator, date, length, and addresses of the withheld items.
- Explanations and justifications for denial, including the identification of the exemption applicable to the withheld information or portions of the information found to be subject to exemption, and how each exemption applies to the withheld material.

Waiving Request for Fee Waiver

This FOIA request meets the case-by-case requirements for a fee waiver, by satisfying each of the six factors which must be met to qualify for a fee waiver under EPA regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 2.107. However, although EIP is entitled to a fee waiver, we are waiving any request for a waiver of fees.

Opportunity to Provide Clarification

If I can provide any additional information or answer any questions that can help to clarify or limit this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 888-2701 or via email at slam@environmentalintegrity.org.

Thank you for your assistance with this FOIA request, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Sylvia Lam
Attorney
Environmental Integrity Project
1000 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 888-2701

Enclosures:

Attachment A: EPA Records of Administrator Pruitt's Travel Vouchers from March 1 to May 31